

Preliminary Amendment
Based on PCT/JP03/09125

AMENDMENTS TO THE SPECIFICATION

Please delete the present Abstract of the Disclosure.

Please add the following new Abstract of the Disclosure:

ABSTRACT

A simple and safe method for producing optically active 1,4-benzodioxane derivatives useful as intermediates for pharmaceuticals and the like from inexpensive materials is provided. An optically active triol compound produced by reaction of catechol and optically active 3-halogeno-1,2-propanediol is sulfonylated to form optically active trisulfonate, followed by cyclization with a base to yield optically active 1,4-benzodioxane.